Materials Engineering Branch

TIP*

No. 028 Surface Condition for Good Adherence of Thermal Control Paints

Author(s): Ben Seidenberg and Jules Hirschfield Contact: (301) 286-6882

Flight hardware often requires the application of thermal control paints. Very often the substrates to be painted are already coated with anodized or chromate coatings that will inhibit the adhesion of the thermal control paint. Therefore, these corrosion protective coatings must be removed before application of the paint.

Frequently, the removal of such inhibiting coatings requires disassembly of systems and, in all cases, involves time and expense. Therefore, it is suggested that specifications be written to omit the inclusion of the protective coatings for hardware that is scheduled to receive the paint finish.

Reasons for specifying a protective/inhibiting coating include protecting hardware that is to be exposed to a less than ideal environment for an extended period of time or the use of metals that are sensitive to exposure such as carbon steel and magnesium alloys.

First Issued: January 1978
Date Revised: September 2002

* Technical Information Paper